UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/716,124	11/18/2003	Min-Jeong Kang	678-1104 (P10576)	6104

66547 7590 06/27/2008

THE FARRELL LAW FIRM, P.C.
333 EARLE OVINGTON BOULEVARD
SUITE 701
UNIONDALE, NY 11553

EXAMINER	
NGUYEN, KIMNHUNG T	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2629	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
06/27/2008	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Application Number: 10/716,124
Filing Date: November 18, 2003
Appellant(s): KANG ET AL.

Paul J. Farrell
For Appellant

EXAMINER'S ANSWER

This is in response to the appeal brief filed 4/4/2008 appealing from the Office action mailed 11/14/2007.

(1) Real Party in Interest

A statement identifying by name the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

(2) Related Appeals and Interferences

The examiner is not aware of any related appeals, interferences, or judicial proceedings which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

(3) Status of Claims

The statement of the status of claims contained in the brief is correct.

(4) Status of Amendments After Final

No amendment after final has been filed.

(5) Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

The summary of claimed subject matter contained in the brief is correct.

(6) Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

The appellant's statement of the grounds of rejection to be reviewed on appeal is correct.

(7) Claims Appendix

The copy of the appealed claims contained in the Appendix to the brief is correct.

(8) Evidence Relied Upon

5,850,477	TAKADA	12-1995
5,956,034	SACHS et al.	8-1996

(9) Grounds of Rejection

The following ground(s) of rejection are applicable to the appealed claims:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-8, 10-13 and 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takada (US 5,850,477) in view of Sachs et al. (US 5,956,034).

As to claim 1, Takada discloses in fig. 2, a pen input device (11) comprising:

a touch screen panel (8) for receiving a pen input (11) from a user and displaying input data corresponding to the received pen input (see a handwritten character entered on a touch panel by using a pen is registered as one stroke data, see abstract);

an entry field generating portion (CPU2) for generating at least one entry field (rectangular region 52, 53, 54 figs. 12A-12C) (based on a boundary line (see fig. 17, see division boundary line) of an entry frame drawn by the user;

a controller (9) for performing a control operation in such a manner that the input data (Richard Miller 51, fig. 12B) is displayed spatially inside the generated entry field (52), and the entry field's size is newly set to be suitable for the input data's size (because the entry field has a size and suitable to provide the ("Richard Miller" in fig.13);

and a memory unit (7) for storing recognition information related to the entry field and the input data (because the memory 7 related CPU2, ROM and RAM, and correspondence to character inputted in handwriting to a size of width, see col. 11, lines 21-42). Takada does not disclose a controller for resizing the entry field to be suitable for the input data's size whenever input data is input to the generated entry field.

Sachs et al. disclose in figs. 2A, 2B, 3A, 3B, controller (see program identifies to the user, represented by switches 62, see col. 5, lines 23-28) a touch-sensitive display screen (60, fig. 2A, 60a, fig. 3A, 60b, fig. 3B) comprises a resizing the entry field to be suitable for the input data's size whenever input data (by stylus pen 63 as is known in the art or a function switches 62 on a display page 60a, in fig. 3A on display screen 60, and may be in the form of an icon, text, or combination of the two, see col. 5, lines 20-29) is input to the generated entry field (see when the "mark page" icon 120 is selected, the portable display unit marks the current page by displaying a marker tab on the page 60a, and when the icon 122 is pressed then the size of the font on text 110 is display and can then be enlarged or reduce, see col. 6, lines 8-22).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement a touch-sensitive display screen comprises a resizing the entry field as taught by Sachs et al. into the system of Takada for producing the claimed invention because this would provide for the larger font sizes, an "anti-aliased" display technique and thus to provide character smoothing (see Sachs et al., see col. 6, lines 20-22).

As to claim 2, Takada discloses further, wherein the entry field (rectangular region 52) generating portion generates the entry field by smoothing the boundary line of the drawn entry frame (see fig. 17) and based on a previously stored entry frame shape.

As to claim 3, Takada discloses further, wherein the entry field (52 includes a virtual cell 51), with a size (virtual cell 51 has a size) that is adjusted to be suitable for the size of the input data (see the created stroke data is displayed on the rectangular coordinates of a specific size being after the cursor display position, see col. 4, lines 45-45-48).

As to claim 4, Takada discloses further, wherein the input data is handwritten data (see abstract), the controller (9, because the control circuit 9 controls the CPU2, ROM and RAM) and correspondence to character inputted in handwriting to a size of width, see col. 11,lines 21-42) detects a beginning point and an end point of strokes of the handwritten data, and, provides information of a finally modified size of the virtual cell obtained when the end point is detected in the entry field generating portion (see fig. 14B, see start point of stroke data A and end point of stroke data B).

As to claim 5, Takada disclose further, wherein the entry field generating portion newly sets the entry field's size based on the information of the finally modified size of the virtual cell (51) (because the entry field has a size and suitable to provide the "Richard Miller" in figs. 12,13, and see the created stroke data is displayed on the rectangular coordinates of a specific size being after the cursor display position, see col. 4, lines 45-45-48, and see col. 13, lines 62-67).

As to claim 6, Takada discloses further, wherein the controller (9) recognizes the handwritten data of the virtual cell as one stroke group (see figs. 14A-14B), and converts the recognized handwritten data to computer-recognizable data (see process of the program, see fig. 17).

As to claim 7, Takada discloses further, wherein, in response to a user's request, the controller sets an inherent attribute of a virtual cell of the entry field (see stroke A and B, fig. 15C).

As to claim 8, Takada discloses further, wherein the controller duplicates the entry field to generate a page-based database (see stroke data display coordinate table, see fig. 9) and enables the memory unit (7) to store the page-based database (because program is stalled in the memory, see col. 8, lines 52-64).

As to claim 10, Takada discloses in fig. 1, a pen input method comprising the steps of:

(a) displaying an entry frame drawn by a user through a pen input on a touch screen panel (see handwritten character entered on a touch panel by using a pen, see abstract, see col. 9, lines 66-67, col. 10, lines 1-3);

(b) detecting a boundary line of the entry frame (see division boundary line see fig.17), setting an entry field based on the detected boundary line (see division boundary line, see fig. 17), and generating a virtual cell (stroke 51, see figs. 12-13) corresponding to the entry field for entering data;

(c) modifying the virtual cell's size (see stroke 51 has a size) in real time in response to entry of data into the virtual cell (see the created stroke data is displayed on the rectangular coordinates of a specific size being after the cursor display position, see col. 4, lines 45-45-48); and

(d) when the entry of the data into the virtual cell (48, including DATA No., X-DIR, Y-DIR, fig. 9) is completed, newly setting the entry field to be suitable for the modified virtual cell's size (because the entry field has a size and suitable to provide the "Richard Miller" in figs.

12,13, (see the created stroke data is displayed on the rectangular coordinates of a specific size being after the cursor display position, see col. 4, lines 45-48, and see col. 13, lines 62-67). Takada does not disclose a controlling for resizing the entry field to be suitable for the entry of the data's size.

Sachs et al. disclose in figs. 2A, 2B, 3A, 3B, a touch-sensitive display screen (60, fig. 2A, 60a, fig. 3A, 60b, fig. 3B) comprises a resizing the entry field to be suitable for the input data's size whenever input data (by stylus pen 63 as is known in the art or a function switches 62 on a display page 60a, in fig. 3A on display screen 60, and may be in the form of an icon, text, or combination of the two, see col. 5, lines 20-29) is input to the generated entry field (see when the "mark page" icon 120 is selected, the portable display unit marks the current page by displaying a marker tab on the page 60a, and when the icon 122 is pressed then the size of the font on text 110 is display and can then be enlarged or reduced, see col. 6, lines 8-22).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement a touch-sensitive display screen comprises a resizing the entry field as taught by Sachs et al. into the system of Takada for producing the claimed invention because this would provide for the larger font sizes, an "anti-aliased" display technique and thus to provide character smoothing (see Sachs et al., see col. 6, lines 20-22).

As to claim 11, Takada discloses further the pen input method as set forth in claim 10, wherein, in the step (b), the setting of the entry field is performed by smoothing the detected boundary line based on a previously stored entry frame shape (see fig. 17).

As to claim 12, Takada discloses further the pen input method as set forth in claim 10, wherein, when the data entered into the virtual cell is handwritten data, the step (c) comprises the steps of:

(c1) detecting a beginning point and an end point of the handwritten data (see start point and end point of fig.15c);

(c2) modifying the virtual cell's size while displaying a trace of the handwritten data (see the created stroke data is displayed on the rectangular coordinates of a specific size being after the cursor display position, see col. 4, lines 45-45-48, and see col. 13, lines 62-67); and

(c3) storing information on the modified virtual cell's size during a period until the end point is detected (see end point of line segment Si, see fig.17, see col. 17, lines 62-67).

As to claim 13, Takada discloses the pen input method as set forth in claim 10, further comprising the step of:

(e) in response to a user's request, setting an inherent attribute of the virtual cell of the entry field (because the attribute of virtual cell of the entry field is dependent on the user's request).

As to claim 15 is rejected as the same claim 8.

As to claim 16 is rejected as the same claim 6.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claim 9 and 14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: None of the cited art teaches or suggests that wherein the inherent attributes defines the entry field to be one of a fixed entry field in which the virtual cell's size and the entered data cannot be modified by the user, and a reserved entry field in which the virtual cell's size, and the entered data cannot be modified by the user, and defines a type of the entry data as claim 9 and 14.

(10) Response to Argument

Applicant states that "Sachs et al. do not teach or suggest a controller for resizing the entry field to suitable for the input data's size whenever input data is input to the generated field, as recited by Claim1. Takada does not cure the deficiencies of Sachs et al."

"Since the combination of Takada in view of Sachs et al. do not teach teaches or disclose the recitation of Claim 1 of the present application, a controller for resizing the entry field to be suitable for the input data's size whenever input data is input to the generated field, Claim 1 cannot be rendered obvious over Takada in view of Sachs et al."

Examiner respectively disagrees because Takada does not disclose a controlling for resizing the entry field to be suitable for the entry of the data's size, but Sachs et al. disclose in figs. 2A, 2B, 3A, 3B, a controller to resizing the entry field is the program identifies to the user and functions present by switches 62 (see col. 5, lines 23-28), a touch-sensitive display screen (60, fig. 2A, 60a, fig. 3A, 60b, fig. 3B) comprises a resizing the entry field to be suitable for the input data's size whenever input data (by stylus pen 63 as is known in the art or a function switches 62 on a display page 60a, in fig. 3A on display screen 60, and may be in the form of an icon, text, or combination of the two, see col. 5, lines 20-29) is input to the generated entry field (see when the "mark page" icon 120 is selected, the portable display unit marks the current page

by displaying a marker tab on the page, and the size of the font on text 110 is display and can then be enlarged or reduce, see col. 6, lines 8-22). Therefore, the combination of Takada and Sachs et al. are satisfied for it intended purpose.

Applicant also states that "Sachs et al. do not teach or suggest when the entry of the data into the virtual cell is completed, resizing the entry field to be suitable for the entry of the data's size, as recited by Claim 10. Takada does not cure the deficiencies of Sachs et al."

"Since the combination of Takada in view of Sachs et al. do not teach teaches or disclose the recitation of Claim 1 of the present application, when the entry of the data into the virtual cell is completed, resizing the entry field to be suitable for the entry of the data's size, Claim 10 cannot be rendered obvious over Takada in view of Sachs et al."

Examiner respectively disagrees because Takada discloses the entry of data into the virtual cell is completed (48, including DATA No., X-DIR, Y-DIR, fig. 9). Sachs et al. disclose in figs. 2A, 2B, 3A, 3B, a controller to resizing the entry field is the program identifies to the user and functions present by switches 62 (see col. 5, lines 23-28), a touch-sensitive display screen (60, fig. 2A, 60a, fig. 3A, 60b, fig. 3B) comprises a resizing the entry field to be suitable for the input data's size whenever input data (by stylus pen 63 as is known in the art or a function switches 62 on a display page 60a, in fig. 3A on display screen 60, and may be in the form of an icon, text, or combination of the two, see col. 5, lines 20-29) is input to the generated entry field (see when the "mark page" icon 120 is selected, the portable display unit marks the current page by displaying a marker tab on the page, and the size of the font on text 110 is display and can then be enlarged or reduce, see col. 6, lines 8-22). Therefore, the combination of Takada and Sachs et al. are satisfied for it intended purposed.

For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

Respectfully submitted,

/Kimnhung Nguyen/

Examiner, Art Unit 2629

/Richard Hjerpe/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2629

/Michael RAZAVI/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2672

Conferees:

/R. H./

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2629